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OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Report of the Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee

1. The Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee considered operational activities for development (agenda item 11) at its 9th to 12th, 15th, 17th and 18th meetings, on 17, 18, 22 and 24 July 1991. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Notes by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Practices and procedures aimed at a more equitable geographical distribution of sources of procurement for technical cooperation projects" and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon (A/44/646 and A/45/648);

(b) Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries on its seventh session (A/46/39);

(c) Report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation on the operation activities of the United Nations system (A/46/206-E/1991/93 and Add.1-3);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the participation of the United Nations in the review of the governance arrangements of the World Food Programme (A/46/265-E/1991/105);

(e) Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (E/1991/33);

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(f) Report of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes on its first special session (E/1991/69);

(g) Report of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes on its thirty-first session (E/1991/110);

(h) Extract from the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (E/1991/L.27 and Corr.1) and the programme budget implications of decisions 91/32 entitled "Support costs successor arrangements" and 91/37 entitled "United Nations Population Fund: successor support cost arrangements", adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme at its thirty-eighth session" (E/1991/L.34).

2. At its 9th to 12th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on the item. At the 9th meeting, on 17 July, the Committee heard introductory statements by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation, the Executive Director of the World Food Programme, the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and the representatives of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund.

3. At the same meeting, statements were also made by the representatives of the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community) and Canada and the observers for Ghana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77) and Denmark (on behalf of the Nordic countries).

4. At the 10th meeting, on 17 July, statements were made by the representatives of Mexico, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Bahamas the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Austria.

5. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representative of the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development. The representatives of the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization also made statements.

6. At the 11th meeting, on 18 July, statements were made by the representatives of Bahrain, Romania, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Japan, Indonesia, Algeria, New Zealand, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, the United States of America, Cameroon and Morocco and the observer for Switzerland.

7. At the same meeting, the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations made a statement.

8. At the 12th meeting, on 18 July, the representative of China made a statement.

9. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization made a statement.

10. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme in response to questions raised during the discussion.

11. At the 15th meeting, on 22 July, the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation made a statement and replied to questions raised during the discussion.

Summary of the Chairman of the Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee on operational activities for development

12. At the 15th meeting, on 22 July, the Chairman of the Committee summarized the general discussion on the item.

13. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to recommend to the Council that the text of the Chairman's summary of the general discussion be annexed to the report of the Council submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session (see para. 24 below, draft decision I).

14. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Cameroon and the Chairman made statements.

Efficiency of programming

15. At the 15th meeting, on 22 July, the observer for Denmark, on behalf of Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, 1/ Ecuador, Finland, Germany, Hungary, 1/ Iceland, 1/ Ireland, 1/ Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, 1/ Pakistan, Somalia, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zambia introduced a draft decision (E/1991/C.3/L.7) entitled "Efficiency of programming". Subsequently, France joined in sponsoring the draft decision.

16. At the 17th meeting, on 24 July, the Committee adopted the draft decision (see para. 24 below, draft decision II).

Revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme

17. At the 17th meeting, on 24 July, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the Council the adoption of a draft decision regarding the Revision of General Regulations of the World Food Programme (see para. 24 below, draft decision III).

1/ In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

Revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme and membership of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes of the World Food Programme

18. At the 17th meeting, on 24 July, the Chairman made a statement in which he drew the attention of the Committee to the procedural draft resolution entitled "Revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme and membership of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes of the World Food Programme", contained in annex II of the report of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes on the work of its first special session (CFA: Special Session/3; transmitted to the Economic and Social Council as document E/1991/69).

19. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution (see para. 23 below, draft resolution I).

Target for World Food Programme pledges for the period 1993-1994

20. At the 17th meeting, on 24 July, the Chairman made a statement in which he drew the attention of the Committee to the procedural draft resolution entitled "Target for World Food Programme pledges for the period 1993-1994", contained in annex III to the report of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes on its thirty-first session (CFA: 31/5; transmitted to the Economic and Social Council as document E/1991/110).

21. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution (see para. 23 below, draft resolution II).

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of operational activities for development

22. At its 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Committee, on the proposal of the Chairman, decided to recommend to the Council that it take note of the reports before it in connection with the question of operational activities for development (see para. 24 below, draft decision IV).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD (PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION) COMMITTEE

23. The Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme and membership of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes of the World Food Programme

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 1714 (XVI), 2095 (XX) and 3404 (XXX) concerning the establishment and continuance of the United Nations/FAO World Food Programme,

"Recalling further its decision 44/414 of 22 November 1989, its resolution 45/218 of 22 December 1990, and the Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/79 of 27 July 1990 relating to the review of the governance of the World Food Programme,

"Having considered the decision adopted by the Economic and Social Council pursuant to the recommendation of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes of the World Food Programme concerning the governance of the Programme and its relationship with the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

"1. Decides, subject to the concurrence of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, that the membership of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes shall be increased from 30 to 42 by the addition of 12 States Members of the United Nations or States members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and that the Economic and Social Council and the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization shall elect six additional members each;

"2. Decides, taking into account the membership criteria laid down in General Assembly resolution 3404 (XXX), that members of the enlarged Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes shall comprise 27 members from developing countries and 15 from more economically developed countries, to be elected from the States listed in appendix A to the report of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes on its special session 2/ and in accordance with the following distribution of seats:

"(a) Eleven from the States in List A of appendix A, five States to be elected by the Economic and Social Council and six States by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization;

"(b) Nine from the States in List B of appendix A, four States to be elected by the Economic and Social Council and five States by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization; 3/

2/ See E/1991/69.

3/ For this purpose, the Economic and Social Council and the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization will each elect one Member from Group I and three Members from Group II. In addition, the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization will elect one other Member from Groups I and II by rotation.

"(c) Seven from the States in List C of appendix A, four States to be elected by the Economic and Social Council and three States by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization;

"(d) Thirteen from the States in List D of appendix A, seven States to be elected by the Economic and Social Council and six States by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization;

"(e) Two from the States in List E of appendix A, one State to be elected by the Economic and Social Council and one State by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization;

"3. Requests the Economic and Social Council, at its organizational session for 1992, to elect six additional members of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, the six additional members to be elected in accordance with the following distribution and terms of office:

"(a) Two members from the States in List A of appendix A, one for a term of three years and one for a term of one year;

"(b) Two members from the States in List B of appendix A, one for a term of three years and one for a term of two years;

"(c) Two members from the States in List C of appendix A, one for a term of two years and one for a term of one year;

"4. Requests that, thereafter, the Economic and Social Council elect, for a term of three years, all members of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes for whose election it is responsible;

"5. Decides to approve the Revised General Regulations for the World Food Programme contained in appendix B to the report of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes on its special session, 2/ as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1991 and by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization at the 18th plenary meeting of its ninety-ninth session, on 20 June 1991;

"6. Decides, subject to the concurrence of the FAO Conference, that the Revised General Regulations shall come into force on 1 January 1992.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Target for World Food Programme pledges for the period 1993-1994

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the comments of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes, concerning the minimum target for voluntary contributions to the Programme for the period 1993-1994, 4/

4/ See E/1991/69.

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 2462 (XXIII) of 20 December 1968 and 2682 (XXV) of 11 December 1970, in which the General Assembly recognized the experience gained by the World Food Programme in the field of multilateral food aid,

1. Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution annexed to the present resolution;

2. Urges States Members of the United Nations and members and associate members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to undertake the necessary preparations for the announcement of pledges at the Fifteenth Pledging Conference for the World Food Programme.

ANNEX

Target for World Food Programme pledges for the period 1993-1994

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of its resolution 2095 (XX) of 20 December 1965 to the effect that the World Food Programme is to be reviewed before each pledging conference,

Noting that the Programme was reviewed by the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes of the World Food Programme at its thirty-first session and by the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1991,

Having considered the resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the recommendations of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes,

Recognizing the value of and continuing need for multilateral food aid as provided by the World Food Programme since its inception, both as a form of capital investment and for meeting emergency food needs,

1. Establishes for the period 1993-1994 a target for voluntary contributions to the World Food Programme of $1.5 billion, of which not less than one third should be in cash and/or services, and expresses the hope that such resources will be substantially augmented by additional contributions from other sources in view of the prospective volume of sound project requests and the capacity of the Programme to operate at a higher level;

2. Urges States Members of the United Nations and members and associate members of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and appropriate donor organizations to make every effort to ensure that the target is fully attained;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization, to convene a pledging conference for this purpose at United Nations Headquarters in 1992.

24. The Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

DRAFT DECISION I

Summary of the Chairman of the Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee on operational activities for development

The Economic and Social Council decides to annex to its report submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session the text of the summary of the Chairman of the Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee on the general discussion on operational activities for development.

DRAFT DECISION II

Efficiency of programming

The Economic and Social Council endorses decision 91/31 of 25 June 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, 5/ in which the Governing Council requested the Administrator, within the mandate of the United Nations Development Programme and in consultation with the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation, to provide an analytical report to the Governing Council at its fortieth session, in 1993, to identify, in coordination with Governments and taking into account their development priorities on the basis of information to be provided by the recipient countries and multilateral development institutions, those specific activities and services in which the Programme has proved to be most effective in achieving development goals, recognizing the particularities of each country.

DRAFT DECISION III

Revision of the General Regulations of the World Food Programme

The Economic and Social Council, having considered the report of the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes on the work of its first special session, 6/ decides to endorse the revised General Regulations of the World Food Programme contained in appendix B to the report and to transmit them, together with the draft resolution contained in annex II to that report, to the General Assembly for final approval.

5/ See E/1991/L.27; for the final text, see Official records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 13 (E/1991/34).

6/ E/1991/69.

DRAFT DECISION IV

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the question of operational activities for development

The Economic and Social Council takes note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation on the operational activities of the United Nations system; 7/

(b) Extract from the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on its organizational meeting for 1991, its special session and its thirty-eighth session; 8/

(c) Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries on its seventh session; 9/

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the participation of the United Nations in the review of the governance arrangements of the World Food Programme; 10/

(e) Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund. 11/

7/ A/46/206-E/1991/93 and Add.1-3.

8/ E/1991/L.27.

9/ A/46/39.

10/ A/46/265-E/1991/105.

11/ E/1991/33.